

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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Info

FROM: BERLIN

TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 1028, JUNE 1, 7 P.M.

SENT DEPARTMENT 1028, BONN 915, GENEVA 54, POLAD USAREUR 265.
GENEVA FOR HILLENBRAND.

RMR

SHOULD SOVS PROPOSE LIMITATION ON NUMBER ALLIED TROOPS IN WEST BERLIN, THEY WOULD BE DOING SO, WE BELIEVE, NOT FOR MILITARY ADVANTAGE OR TO OBTAIN ANY "ALLIED MILITARY THREAT" BUT IN ORDER TO INSINUATE NEW AND PERHAPS CRIPPLING CONTROLS OVER ALLIED ACCESS. THERE FOLLOW PERTINENT SECTIONS OF MEMORANDUM TO ME FROM GEN HAMLETT:

"A. FROM STRICTLY OBJECTIVE MILITARY VIEWPOINT OUR GARRISONS IN BERLIN ARE IN UNTENABLE POSITION, I.E., THEY ARE OUTPOSTS TOO FAR REMOVED FROM FRONT LINE TO BE PROTECTED BY THE MAIN FORCE. THEREFORE, IT FOLLOWS THAT SIZE OF THE GARRISON HAS LITTLE BEARING ON OVER-ALL PICTURE IN A MILITARY SENSE. SOVIETS ARE QUITE AWARE OF THIS. THEREFORE, THEIR INTERESTS IN SIZE OF GARRISONS OR RATHER AN AGREEMENT ON SIZE OF GARRISON CAN ONLY BE A POLITICAL GIMMICK TO PERMIT THEM TO INSTITUTE FURTHER CONTROL MEASURES ON OUR ACCESS TO BERLIN.

"B. NO MATTER WHAT FIGURE IS AGREED UPON AS A LIMITATION, RUSSIANS WOULD INSIST UPON CAREFUL BOOKKEEPING WITH RESPECT TO MOVEMENT ALLIED MILITARY PERSONNEL IN AND OUT OF WEST BERLIN.

"C. MEANING OF WORD "CONTROL" WITH RESPECT TO ACCESS TO BERLIN HAS LONG BEEN SUBJECT OF DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN OURSELVES AND SOVIETS. IN EVENT WE AGREE TO LIMITING FIGURES ON STRENGTH OF OUR GARRISON, ARMAMENT, ETC., WE WOULD LAY OURSELVES OPEN TO BEING FURTHER CHALLENGED WITH RESPECT TO MEANING OF WORD CONTROL.

"D. WE HAVE NEVER

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By

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"D. WE HAVE NEVER PERMITTED SOVIETS TO MAKE VISUAL INSPECTION OF INTERIOR OF OUR TRAINS OR VEHICLES ON AUTOBAHN. ADDITIONALLY, WE HAVE NEVER PERMITTED ANY TYPE OF CONTROL WITH RESPECT TO AIR CRAFT EXCEPT, OF COURSE, THE INFORMATION WE GIVE THEM AT AIR SAFETY CENTER. IF WE AGREE TO LIMITATIONS ON SIZE OF OUR GARRISON, WE CAN EXPECT NOT ONLY DEMANDS FOR INSPECTION OF INTERIOR OF OUR TRAINS AND VEHICLES, BUT ALSO ESTABLISHMENT OF STRICT CONTROL MEASURES OVER NUMBER OF PERSONS USING AIRCRAFT TO AND FROM BERLIN."

BERLINERS AWARE OF IMPLICATIONS INHERENT IN GARRISON LIMITATIONS (OURTEL 912 BONN, 1025 DEPT, 52 GENEVA) AND WESTERN AGREEMENT TO SUCH LIMITATIONS COULD BE EXPECTED PROFOUNDLY AFFECT BERLIN MORALE.

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